

APREAL BRIEF

Application No: 10/604469

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application No.: 10/604469

Applicant: Iftikhar Khan et al.

Group Art Unit: 3763

Examiner: Theodore Stigell

Title: Orotracheal Suction System

Filing date: 7/23/03

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

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Sir:

As follows are remarks to the board of Appeals

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Amended) An orotracheal suction system for suctioning obstructive material from the oropharynx and trachea of a patient, the system comprising:
a catheter having a distal end and a proximal end, a diameter of from about 0.5 Fr to about 15 Fr, and a length sufficient to engage the oropharynx and distal bronchi of the patient at the catheter distal end; a seal at the distal end of the catheter; an extension tubing operable for attachment to the catheter proximal

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end and extending a distance away from the patient's head and mouth; and a reservoir operable to connect to the extension tubing and to collect the obstructive materials using a vacuum source; wherein the reservoir comprises an entry compartment and a second compartment, wherein the compartments are separated by a grid operable to prevent obstruction of the vacuum by the obstructive material.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system of
Claim 10,

wherein the reservoir comprises a removable disc to empty the obstructive material from the reservoir.

14. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system of
Claim 10, wherein the catheter and extension tubing have a
diameter to accommodate an obstructive food bolus.

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15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system
of Claim 10,

wherein the seal comprises a balloon and wherein the catheter further
comprises a balloon port to inflate the balloon.

17. (Previously Presented) The orotracheal suction system of
Claim 10,

wherein the extension tubing has a length of from about 3 feet to about 5 feet.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of removing an obstructive material
from the oropharynx and trachea of a patient comprising: providing catheter
having a distal end and a proximal end, and a length sufficient to engage the

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oropharynx and distal bronchi of the patient at the catheter distal end;

a seal comprising a balloon at the distal end of the catheter; and

a reservoir having an entry chamber operable for connection to the

catheter to collect the obstructive materials using a vacuum source;

disposing the distal end of the catheter into the oropharynx;

sealing the trachea by inflating the balloon at the distal end of the catheter;

drawing vacuum pressure through the reservoir and proximal end of the catheter

to suction the oropharynx to remove the obstructive material; and

trapping the obstruction in the entry chamber of the reservoir.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, wherein the obstructive material is a

foreign body, a mucous plug, or a food bolus.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 18, further comprising disposing the

catheter distal end in the trachea above the distal bronchi.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 20, further comprising